

## THE PLANTERS' MONTHLY.

A copy of the October number of this useful periodical reaches us rather late through an oversight for which apology has been tendered. Hence a notice on our part more tardy than we should have desired.

There is a variety of most useful matter in this issue of the *Monthly*, mostly bearing on the necessity for improved methods to reduce the cost of producing cane sugar, and the desirability of trying new agricultural industries in this country. On the former subject an article on the "Diffusion Process" is foremost in interest. This journal was, we believe, the first to call the attention of our planters to this process, which, if a success can be made of it, must entirely revolutionize the manufacture of cane sugar. To it as applied to beet sugar is owing the successful competition of that article with cane sugar after a long period of struggle. The article before us gives the satisfactory information that an earnest effort is being made to experiment with the diffusion process here. We hope that the importance of the experiment will be realized by those most interested in sugar production, and that there will be no hitch about securing the necessary funds. As to the success of the experiment itself when fairly tried, we cannot feel any doubt about it, in the face of the information which we have from time to time obtained and published in respect to it.

An article on "The Sugar Future of the Islands" contains some practical advice, and expresses the opinion "that the amount of sugar produced on many of our plantations, does not pay for the cost of producing it," and concludes as follows: "Our only resource then, is to adopt machinery and processes which will extract a larger proportion of sugar from a given amount of cane, than the machinery and process which we now employ will do. Experience has shown that diffusion will extract a much greater percentage of sugar than pressure, and wisdom would suggest that we make some efforts to ascertain the feasibility of introducing the process here." And again in another article, entitled "A Life and Death Struggle," we have an extract from the *Agricultural Gazette* of Barbadoes, which shows how much worse off planters there are than they are in the Hawaiian Islands. This article concludes with the following earnest remarks: "The only chance for the cane planter is to produce his sugar at such a reduced cost that he can undersell his beet-root rival. Sugar-cane in its cells contains twice the saccharine matter that beet does. Beet-root only produces one ton of sugar to the acre; the average yield for sugar cane on these islands is three tons to the acre. Economy in management, reduction in the cost of labor, and obtaining the entire amount of saccharine matter from the canes, are what our planters and mill owners ought to aim at. The days of happy-go-lucky management have long been things of the past, but so much capital is now invested in sugar in these Islands that nothing but the very best agricultural skill in supervising the fields, and the best of mechanical skill in running the machinery, will obtain the results required. Above all, our planters should give attention to the new processes for expressing juice as they are brought forward, and we would call especial attention to the diffusion process, which has been pretty thoroughly discussed in these pages. We have a hard row to hoe, but only give us a good hoe and we will be able to do as well if not better than our neighbors."

Among other matters we find a short reference to the Jarvis furnace. We should like to see some account of the results attained by this furnace by those who tried it in this country, and also of those secured by the style of furnace which Mr. Makee and others patented here some time ago. From what we hear, we are inclined to believe that the local invention is not surpassed by any other arrangement for the burning of trash and complete utilization for heat of the gasses arising from its combustion.

Among the suggestions as to new industries we find an interesting account of the Kola nut, taken from the *Tropical Agriculturist*. This nut

is destined to take an important place in consumption alongside of coffee and cocoa. Among its other properties one is alleged which ought to make it popular with a too large class of mankind. "I have recently been informed," says the writer of the article quoted from, "by Mr. Es-pent, a well known sugar planter of Jamaica, that the negroes use the Kola nut as a remedy for drunkenness; that swallowing a single nut ground up and made into a cream or paste with water or spirit, no sign of intoxication remains half-an-hour afterwards. Confirmatory evidence of this property in the Kola nut is given by a surgeon, Mr. Papaño, who tells me that alcoholic drinks do not produce intoxicating effects when the Kola nut is eaten at the same time. It appears, therefore, that the craving for drink, which is such a strong incentive to drunkenness, may be subdued by the use of this valuable stimulant and tonic, and after chewing the Kola nut great disinclination is felt to all forms of alcohol."

Another item worthy of notice in regard to new industries is the intelligence that during their recent trip to America Messrs. W. O. and W. E. Smith have been systematically gathering information concerning the fruit-growing districts of Southern California. We hope they have brought back with them some knowledge which will be useful both to themselves and to the country.

## SHADE VS. SUNSHINE.

As "God made the country, man made the town," so here in these islands God made the sunshine, man has made the shadows. In Honolulu is this especially the case. Time was when the plain upon which the city stands was so devoid of trees that the natives built deep cool *lanais* (reproduced in our modern verandas) on which to find refuge from the sun when at home, and drew their mats over their heads when they ventured abroad.

The first care (aside from that of souls) of the early missionary was to create shade. This they did with ease, the kindly soil and an abundance of water aiding them in their efforts to beautify the land.

But man, never knowing when he has enough of a good thing, has gone on adding to the number and variety of trees, vines and clumps of shrubbery, until now as one approaches the city by water it presents an almost unbroken mass of foliage above which peer a very few tops of houses. It was predicted long ago by an old time resident that the increasing depth of shade in the city would not only shut out the heat rays of the sun, but intercept its light and life-giving beams to an unhealthy extent. This prediction is now being fulfilled, and we are compelled to admit that our fair city is plagued with malarial diseases now which were unknown here in former days.

It is not asserted that the presence of these diseases is due alone to unhealthy exhalations that now linger in the damp shadows of the town instead of being rapidly dissipated as in former years by the glad sunlight, but they are rendered possible by too much shade, and cling to us more persistently in damp and gloomy localities.

We have too many trees; not alone for our own health, but for theirs too. The delicate, thin foliage of the algeroba, which casts but a veil of shadow, is quite sufficient for health, and they ought not to be too close together. But in not a few gardens in the city (and small ones at that) one can find huge monkey-pods stretching a canopy of dense shade, studded with blossom-tufts on all sides. Close to them are gloomy Norfolk Island pines, with rigid plumy branches; near by shoot up the Doric columns of the Royal Palms (that should always stand alone). Under the higher growth are stumpy palms topped with a cluster of huge Mother Hubbard fans. As like as not a crooked Eucalyptus, and still more crooked and gnarled Algerobas, are in a clump hard by, and not very far away will be a group of bananas, or of the Madagascar "traveller's tree" adding moisture to the already too damp atmosphere. An Australian wattle, a tulip tree, some cocoanut palms, and a crowd of shrubs and tangled masses of vines fill in the

picture, and shut out the air and light. The vegetable world fights for its life, and its battle-ground, like all others, breed noisome exhalations, none the less deadly because they are not so gross as those that rise from the bodies of horses and men "in one red burial blent." Let us have more sunlight and less shade.

## SALAD MAKING.

## PART II.

Not every man can make a salad. We all think we can, just as we all think we can judge correctly of the goodness of wine. But the fact is that very few can tell the difference between champagne made from grape juice and that concocted from something else, or bona-fide claret from colored pyrogenous acid, or whisky distilled from corn and rye, and "bug juice," or real gin from the "Hawaiian" brand. Nor are there any fixed rules established to guide one in their choice of spirits and wine, but there are in salad making, and the first is, be sure of your oil. To secure this in its purity, the really enthusiastic salad maker will visit Italy and watch the whole process, from the gathering of the olive to the final packing of the delicate Florence flasks filled with the rich, nutty flavored fluid. The length of the journey, its expense and probable discomforts will all be forgotten when the sun-burned salad maker reaches home again with his almost priceless treasure. Its possession will amply repay him for all his toil and trouble, and then, too, he will find much aside from the main object of his journey to amuse and interest him in Italy. He can, if he have time, see Rome, the Pope, the Coliseum, some fine paintings and statuary and many other things strange to him.

If, however, there are insurmountable obstacles in the way of one's going in person into the olive oil producing districts, there are two alternatives left the salad maker. The first and most obvious course to pursue is to abandon the task altogether; but if still desirous of seeing what can be done, one can visit the nearest and largest seaport town within reach, put one's self in communication with those who have dealings with incoming ships, and in a guarded manner become familiar with the docks at which lie vessels from the Mediterranean.

The writer pursued this course once with the happiest results. He wandered about a great city's docks, where huge ships laden with rags and blocks of marble from Italy, slowly discharged their freight, until through being there so much, idly lounging on the snowy blocks, or absently poking his cane into parti-colored shreds and tatters, he became to be recognized by the cheery, brown visaged, earringed mate, and was finally invited on board.

There, beneath an awning stretched over the quarter deck, an understanding was arrived at. It took time; for, like a true Briton of the old school, the writer knows but one language—good honest English—and the mate nothing but his own lingo. However, this did not prevent the one from enjoying more than one dish of maccaroni in the snug cabin (that always smelt of Italy) and the other from appreciating the half-crowns judiciously invested. At length, through the medium of the cabin boy (all curls, white teeth, and pantomime) the object of the visits was made plain, and on one happy day the writer carried with him ashore a half dozen wicker covered flasks containing olive oil!

Five old friends were invited to contribute, each one his specialty, one bringing salt from Polish mines, another pepper from the Dutch Javanese Residency, a third mustard from our own Devonshire, a fourth vinegar from France, and the fifth garlic from Madrid. As each bid his host good night after that solemn feast, he carried away with him one of those flasks of oil.

A New York paper makes a big fuss about a calf with a human head. That's nothing; we have hundreds of them right here in this city. They wear clothes just like men, and generally stand on corners and ogle the girls.

## LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

We give the foreign news to the date of the 30th of last month, as follows:—

It is again stated that the Government of France is willing to resume treaty negotiations with China, provided the latter will strictly observe the Treaty of Tientsin, and pay France the indemnity of 90,000,000 francs.

The destination of Admiral Courbet's fleet is unknown.

The Viceroy of Canton has been ordered to issue a proclamation urging the Chinese to resist the French, and forbid any attempt to poison the food, and refrain from unduly exciting the populace.

The loss by fire at Louisville, near Montreal, Canada, recently, is \$25,000. A sudden change in the wind saved the town from being completely destroyed.

It is positively stated at Berlin that the Great Powers are discussing the question of a renewal of the London Conference in order to finally settle the financial question. It is stated also that Germany is willing to join in the Conference if there should be a reasonable prospect of bringing the matter to a successful issue.

Maurel has begun a suit against Patti, in London, claiming \$10,000 damages as compensation for breaking her engagement at the Paris Italiens. Maurel alleges that Marquis Caux promised not to interfere in the matter.

Patti, with H. F. Gillig and United States Consul Peixotto had sailed for America at the time.

A London dispatch says the Marquis Desper and Admiral Pinto are about to lead a Portuguese expedition to explore the country between Mozambique and Lake Nyssa, in Southeast Africa. The expedition will be accompanied by 100 Zulus and 250 carriers.

The operators of the Mexican telegraph lines are on a strike.

There was an increase of cholera in Italy the last of September. The officers who sought to disinfect certain districts were assailed by the populace with stones and revolvers. At one place there were 150 orphans who lost all their relations by the plague.

The River Nile was rising on the 30th ult., and jeopardising property at Kasala, Egypt, which it would take 30,000 camels to transport.

A twelve year old school girl, named Aggie Hilton, residing on Third street, near Folsom street, in San Francisco, recently gave birth to a boy baby. The baby was found in a lot, adjoining her residence. The father, Frank Stayne, an employe in a Spear street saw mill, married the girl, in order to escape the ire of the girl's mother.

The S. F. *Chronicle* of the 28th September, says: On the steamer San Pablo, that sailed for China last Thursday, was Henry Comstock, the foreign agent of the Remington Rifle Company of New York, who is on his return to the Flowery Kingdom. Mr. Comstock stated to a *Chronicle* reporter that thus far he has personally obtained orders for arms from three provinces in China amounting to \$2,750,000, of which \$1,900,000 worth have already been shipped to Shanghai via Liverpool and that the company has its factories running night and day, employing 5000 men and 713 women and girls. "I expect to sell as much again without any difficulty," said Mr. Comstock. "The Chinese mean business and it will not be an easy matter to conquer that country, as some think. All the arms and ammunition that have been sold to China by our company are shipped exclusively via Liverpool to Shanghai."

A reliable correspondent of the *Syracuse, N. Y. Sun* says "that he is confident that Cleveland will not carry any of the fourteen counties bordering on the Erie canal in that state unless it may be the single county of Albany."

The mental and physical condition of the celebrated actor John McCullough is said to be precarious.

Ex-Sheriff Tom Desmond, of San Francisco, keeps up his notoriety. He gets a notice in the San Francisco *Chronicle* because an old Sing Sing convict attempted to pick his pockets.

A German journalist has made very merry over the English Queen's anger at the mesalliance of the Grand Duke of Hesse. It points out that in a comparatively recent period there have been no less than seventeen morganatic unions in royal German circles, the offenders including one Emperor, four Kings, one Elector, two Archdukes of Austria and nine royal Princes. It then declares that all these marriages turned out happily, and cli-

mares its atrocity by a reminder that the alliance of the Princess Louise with the Marquis of Lorne would, according to German law, rank only as a morganatic marriage.

European tourists are hastening back to America to participate in the ensuing election.

The list of Vice-Presidents of the Council of Welcome for the coming exhibition in London has been announced. It includes Andrew Carnegie, Thos. A. Edison, General W. S. Hancock, ex-Senator Thos. W. Ferry, Henry M. Stanley, and Minister A. G. Curtin, all of the United States.

A London dispatch to the S. F. *Chronicle*, dated Sept. 28th, says: "Preparations for the expected war of rates between rival Atlantic cable companies are nearly completed, and if the profusion of gilt letters and gorgeous decorations of their offices mean anything, the Mackay-Bennett people certainly intend to inaugurate a big boom in cable circles in London."

The next President of the United States, James G. Blaine, has been making a kind of triumphal tour through what are now known as the Middle States. He had an immense ovation at each place he visited, and always made a point or two in his speeches which were appreciated by the people of the locality.

The American gunboat Palos, Commander Gladden, arrived at Hongkong August 29th, from Canton.

Taking the official figures showing that the 8000 people attacked by cholera at Toulon, only 800 died. The Paris *Morning News* assumes that "either the disease is not the virulent malady known as cholera in Asia, or the doctors have discovered how to treat that malady." The *News* leans to the former of these conclusions.

Of 125,000 miles of railroad in the United States and Canada, all but 4000 miles are operated on standard time. The most important exceptions are the several Pacific systems. East of the Mississippi only about twenty miles adhere to solar time. Of cities of 10,000 inhabitants or more, 185 out of 219 have adopted the railroad standard; and of the thirty-four cities adhering to solar time, thirty-one are located in Ohio, Michigan, and the Pacific Slope. The "Ohio idea" is strongly longitudinal, as that State contains fifteen of the only thirty-four cities of the Union which refuse to join the procession.

The New York *Sun* of recent date says: It is now tolerably clear that there is no chance of Grover Cleveland's election to the Presidency. He cannot carry New York. He will be beaten in this State by a majority of not less than fifty thousand, in spite of every exertion that may be made between now and election day.

Judge Zane, the new Chief Justice of Utah, in impanelling a Grand Jury for the September term of the Third District Court, purged the jury of Mormons, on the ground that all believers in polygamy were disqualified under the Edmunds Act to serve. One Mormon, however, a son of Bishop Jenkins, was not to be ousted, for, while stoutly maintaining that he was a Mormon, he was equally strenuous in avowals of disbelief in polygamy.

Two Vallejo (California) parties have made the following wagers: If Blaine is elected the Democrat is to stand on the corner of Georgia and Sacramento streets from 7 A.M. until 6 P.M., and black the boots and shoes of all passers by. Should Cleveland be elected, the Republican is to perform the same task.

William Burcham, a widely known and respected engineer on the Central Pacific, who has for a long time been running the local train between Sacramento and Colfax, fell in an apoplectic fit on the platform at Newcastle recently, and died in a few minutes.

The prodigious increase of fish in the harbor this year, says the Santa Barbara *Independent*, of San Francisco, is unprecedented. Fine catches of mackerel are being made daily from off the wharf.

Mr. Morosini of New York, whose daughter eloped with and married a coachman, is the private Secretary of Jay Gould and a millionaire. His resentment against the coachman is so great that he declares he will never forgive him, although he is willing to receive his daughter back into his family if she will desert her husband. This she declines to do. Jay Gould, taking in the situation, addressed Mr. Morosini a note in which he says: "I would suggest that you start the young man in some light business congenial to his tastes, and if he has any business qualities in him they will soon develop themselves. Such a step might be the means of making the young couple happy and lessen the burden of your grief."